

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A facsimile machine for communicating with a computer network, comprising:

- an optical scanner for generating image data;
- an input device for receiving recipient-identifying information, said recipient-identifying information being associated with a recipient and a telephone number;
- a communication interface configured to transmit and receive data; and
- a processor coupled with said input device and configured for
 - receiving said recipient-identifying information from said input device,
 - converting said recipient-identifying information to a destination address representing a destination computer on said computer network,
 - associating said image data with said destination address, and
 - controlling transmission of said image data and associated destination address to said communication interface in the form of an e-mail message with image attachment.

2. The facsimile machine of Claim 1, further comprising:

- a directory memory in which is stored a predetermined correspondence between a plurality of telephone numbers and a plurality of destination addresses, said telephone numbers being those of both recipients and computer network service providers; and

- wherein said processor is further configured to determine whether a telephone number associated with recipient-identifying information received from said input device is that of a network service provider or a recipient and, if said telephone number is that of a computer network service provider, converts said telephone to said destination address in response to said directory memory and controls transmission of said image data via said interface device in the form of an e-mail message with image attachment in accordance with data modem standards, but if said telephone number is that of a recipient, controls transmission of said image data via said interface device in the form of a facsimile transmission in accordance with facsimile modem standards.

3. The facsimile machine of Claim 1, further comprising:
 - a display configured to display a visual representation of text data, said text data representing a body of an e-mail message associated with said e-mail message with image attachment; and
 - wherein said processor is further configured to control reception of said text data from said interface device and to control transmission of said text data to said display.
4. A method for transmitting facsimile machine information to a computer network, comprising:
 - producing a digitized image;
 - generating a destination address corresponding to a destination computer on said computer network;
 - associating said digitized image with said destination address in the form of an e-mail message with image attachment;
 - establishing a connection with a computer network;
 - transmitting said e-mail message with image attachment to said destination computer; and
 - transmitting facsimile data to a remote facsimile machine.
5. A method for receiving facsimile machine information from a remote computer on a computer network, comprising:
 - establishing a connection with a computer network;
 - receiving attachment data and an associated destination address from said computer network via said connection in the form of an e-mail message with image attachment;
 - separating said e-mail message with image attachment into an image attachment representing a digitized image and an e-mail body having a destination address; and
 - receiving facsimile data from a remote facsimile machine via a public switched telephone network.